

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 20 are pending in the present application.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 4, 5, 7-17.

Applicant has added new claims 18-20.

Applicant has prepared and encloses an Abstract of Disclosure of the invention.

Applicant has corrected the minor typographical errors in the specification.

Claims 8 to 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for claiming a recitation of a process, without setting forth any steps. Claims 8 and 11 have been amended to claim a method and the steps associated with the claimed method.

Claims 1 to 12 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Specifically, claims 1 to 12 stand rejected because the cited limitation "selected from the group comprising" makes it impossible to determine the scope of the claims containing it. The Examiner suggested amending the term "comprising" to "consisting of". Applicant has amended claims 1 to 12 as suggested by the Examiner. Applicant has made similar amendments to claims 13 to 17 for reasons of consistency.

Claims 8 to 11 also stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph for failing to set forth the steps involved in the claimed method.

Claims 8 and 11 have been amended to set forth the associated steps.

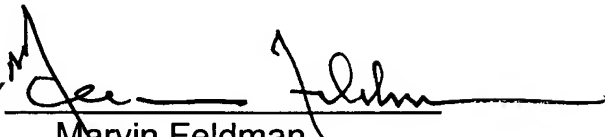
Claim 12 further stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, for containing two periods. Claim 12 has been amended to more clearly define the scope of protection being sought.

In view of the foregoing, applicant believes that claims 1 to 20 are currently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections to claims 8 to 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, and to claims 1 to 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and that claims 1 to 20 be passed to allowance.

Applicant respectfully requests a 3 months extension of time to December 11, 2004 in which to respond to this office action and enclose a check in the amount of \$510.00 to cover the required fee. Should additional fees be required or a credit is forthcoming, then same maybe charged or credited to the undersigned Attorney Deposit Account 10-0100.

Respectfully submitted,

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BY 
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MF:k

Date December 13, 2004

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Enclosure: Check in the amount of \$510.00